

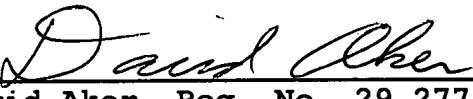
REMARKS

This application, as amended herein, contains claims 12, 13, 15, 17, 21-23 and 28-39. Claims 1-12 were previously canceled, subject to presentation in a divisional application. Claims 18-20 and 24-27, which were withdrawn due to restriction, have been cancelled herein, subject to being presented in a divisional application.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowability of claims 16 and 17. By amendment herein, the recitations of canceled claims 14 and 16 have been included in claim 12. Thus, claim 12 is now directed to patentable subject matter. The remaining claims depend directly or indirectly from allowable claim 12, and are thus also directed to patentable subject matter. Several minor corrections and conforming amendments have been made therein.

Since it appears that there are no further issues that need to be resolved, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. However, if any issue remains so that the Examiner cannot issue a Notice of Allowance immediately, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted at the telephone number set forth below to promptly resolve such issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date